



1. What does Forward Steps do?

The project works intensively with children and young people who are in foster care with Neath and Port Talbot Social Services and are facing the prospect of placement disruption, particularly where that disruption could result in an out of county placement.

2. What are the positive outcomes for the children and young people who receive a service from Forward Steps?

- **Placement Stability** – over 80 % of the children and young people have been maintained in placement and the involvement of the project has reduced the velocity of disruption where it occurred.
- **Education** - All the children and Young People maintained a position in school or in some form of education establishment at the conclusion of their involvement with the project.
- **Offending Behaviour** – Only three of the young people (6%) were charged with a criminal offence whilst involved with Forward Steps. In each instance they were cautioned for low tariff offences.
- **Health** – All young people are advised on their rights regarding health and are supported to access regular medical check ups.

In addition to these positive outcomes Forward Steps has:

- Developed a drop in provision where young people and carers, some not attached to the project, drop in for advice and support.
- Responded to stake holder input and has developed services to meet expressed needs offering counselling and life story work.
- Worked with young people to re-integrate them back into the community when they have been returned from 'out of county' placements.

3. What do the Foster Carers and Young People think of Forward Steps?

Independent research has identified;

- Universal stakeholder satisfaction particularly from fosters carers and young people.
- Decrease in requests for respite care for foster carers.

For further information on Forward Steps or on the Independent Research
[Please click here](#)